GANGWAR): (a) In order to examine various issues raised by the Federation of All India Petroleum Traders, Government has constituted the under mentioned 3 Committees:—

(i) Committee to examine issues relating to Quality checks etc.,

(ii) Committee to examine the issue of Temperature Variation Allowance and Stock Losses.

(iii) Committee to examine issues relating to Dealers Commission etc.

(b) Information about the meetings of the three Committees held and attended by the Directors of Marketing of Oil PSUs is given below:—

No. of meeting	No. of meetings attended by Directors of Marketing			
held	IOC	BPCL	HPCL	IBP
14	5	8	13	8

(c) Absence of a member from the meeting of the Committee for valid reasons cannot be considered as insult to the Committee.

(d) The Committees on Quality check and Temperature Variation Allowance and Stock Losses have submitted their Report to the Government. The Report of the Committee on Dealers Commissions is awaited.

Indigenous production of Crude Oil

†1079. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that various efforts have been made since March, 1998-99 for raising the crude oil production in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and additional crude oil produced during the period from March, 1998 to the end of March, 2001 as a result of such efforts; and

(c) what has been the indigenous production of crude oil in the country during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001?

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Several important steps have been taken to increase crude oil production in the country, which include:

(i) To improve the recovery factor from existing major fields by implementing Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR)/Improved Oil Recovery (IOR) schemes, in particular Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) has taken up 15 fields for this purpose at an estimated investment of Rs. 10,000 crore, which would also help in accelerating oil production from these fields.

(ii) To increase exploration efforts through the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP). Under the first round of NEPL, Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs) have been signed for 24 blocks in which works are in progress. Additionally, another 25 blocks have been offered under the second round of NELP, of which PSCs have been signed on 17.7.2001 for 23 blocks.

(iii) To attract technology and investment; PSCs for 9 discovered fields, 8 in Gujarat and 1 in Assam, were signed on 23.2.2001 with consortia of Indian and foreign companies.

(iv) To explore in new areas, especially in deep water and difficult frontier areas, as also explore in the deeper layers of the producing fields.

(v) To develop faster the newly discovered fields and to step up the use of new technologies for seismic surveys, work over, stimulation operations, drilling of wells etc. in producing areas.

In any field, generally a combination of various efforts are implemented simultaneously and' thus it is difficult to attribute oil gain to any individual effort. The Enhanced Oil Recovery/Improved Oil Recovery schemes are long term measures, the implementation of which takes about 4 to 5 yean and the gain therefrom is spread over

the next twenty years or so. However, with various efforts undertaken the declining trend of crude oil production has been arrested with more production in 2000-01 as compared to the previous year.

(c) The indigenous crude oil production during 1998-99 to 2000-01 has been as given below:—

(Million Metric Tonne)

	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
ONGC	26.39	24.65	25.06
OIL	3.28	3.26	3.29
Private/JV Companies	3.04	4.02	4.08
TOTAL	32.71	31.93	32.43

Jubilee Retail Outlets in Punjab

1080. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of petroleum companies which started Jubilee Retail Outlet scheme and the number of such outlets developed by each company;

(b) the number of projects received by BPCL for such outlets in Punjab during the last three years, the number of outlets developed/ to be developed;

(c) whether some parties were asked to effect changes inland structure and complete other formalities but outlets were not awarded; and

(d) if so, whether Government would ask the company to fulfill its commitment or make good such expenditure the parties were made to incur?